

CAMPAIN PLAN OF DEMOCRATS.

Kansas City, Jefferson City and Sedalia Capture the Three Conventions.

Nominating Convention to Precede the National Assembly—Basis of Representation—Cook's Resignation Declined.

State Nominating Convention—Kansas City, June 5.
Convention to elect delegates to the National Convention—Jefferson City, June 14.
Judicial Convention—Sedalia, July 17.

By a Staff Correspondent.

Kansas City, Mo., March 6.—The Democratic State Convention today took place from its former custom and opened a new field for the politicians. According to precedent, candidates for State offices should not be nominated until after an annual convention. The committee has reversed this and the State nominating convention will be held nearly a month earlier. Less than two weeks later the delegate convention will be held.

The committee held two long sessions. Both were executive, but an unbroken line of communication was maintained with the outside. It was evident last night that the State nominating convention would come first and that it would be held much earlier than usual. This was the expressed wish of all but two candidates at their meeting last night and it had a perceptible effect on the committee. At every stage of the committee's deliberations there was a strong majority in favor of an early State nominating convention. Various tests were made, but the opposition proved weak at all times.

Majority Well Organized.
The majority was well organized and under the leadership of Frank P. Walsh of this city. Before noon there were some general understandings among those who favored an early State nominating convention, the same to have precedence over the other convention. When the organization was passed around that at some stage of the sitting of the committee Mr. Walsh would offer a resolution fixing the date of the convention as follows:

State nominating convention, June 5; delegate convention, June 14; judicial convention, July 17.

This resolution was introduced at the first sitting of the committee but was not acted upon. But it served its purpose, as Mr. Walsh had foreseen. After the resolution was covered that June 5 would fall on Tuesday, June 14, Thursday, and July 17, Tuesday.

Following the presentation of this resolution the opposition, headed by Edward A. Glenn of Pike, tried to inject a resolution providing for State primaries. This was defeated. Mr. Glenn smiled and came back with a resolution providing that neither the State nominating nor judicial convention should be held prior to June 14.

After the orators had stopped for breath this resolution was carried off to the morose by practically the same vote. Then the majority settled down to the business of the day. A dozen dates were named in July for the State nominating and judicial conventions, and the orators were dismissed at a long and as often as they desired. Following each debate a vote was taken, with the same disastrous result to the minority.

Reasons for Early Convention.
Several causes are assigned for the action of the committee. In the first place, all but two of the candidates wanted the State nominating convention held early to avoid being mixed up in a contest, deemed likely to develop in the delegate convention with Governor Stone, Colonel W. H. Phelps and Governor Stephens as principals. The campaign of the six months earlier than usual, and many counties and districts are going right ahead with nominating work. It is the wish of the leaders of the party secured to favor as early convention as possible, on the theory that a better organization will be effected.

Perhaps the candidates deserve the largest share of credit for the early State nominating convention. They looked upon the volume indications which seem certain to attend the delegate convention as likely to involve them in deep water, and all of them readily agreed they were not looking for any new troubles. The politicians also look for a more active campaign in the vicinity of Jefferson City, Governor Stone and Colonel Phelps have whetted their fighting knives, and each will seek to figure and defeat the other. Governor Stephens' enemies, too, are on the war-path, and say they will be very much in evidence at the delegate convention in Jefferson City on June 14.

But aside from a threat of fierce contests at the delegate convention, many party leaders saw an early State nominating convention would enable the party to take the best organization it ever had. They predict most satisfactory gains as a result of the committee's work today.

It will be a strange sight in Missouri to witness a Democratic State nominating convention adjourn without having adopted a platform, something now deemed inevitable, as this convention will come along with the nomination of a presidential candidate. Necessarily the work of promulgating a platform will fall to the responsibilities of the judicial convention.

Selecting Convention Cities.
At no time during the long sitting of the committee was any more interest manifested by the outsiders than over the selection of places for holding the conventions. Early in the morning Kansas City turned her statement loose and told them to drop local politics and go after a State convention. Jefferson City, St. Joseph and Sedalia were also early. The latter soon dropped out of the contest for the two big conventions, one for the State and one for the national, and bid for the judicial convention.

"We need a little practice in the matter of handling conventions," said the Kansas City men. "Give us the State Nominating Convention and increase the representation from 75 delegates to about 150, and it will afford us practical lessons before taking hold of the big National Democratic Convention." Strangely enough, this logic won, but without the most stubborn protest. The part of Jefferson City and St. Joseph, not only did Kansas City secure the convention desired, but the accommodating committee voted the increase asked for by the number of delegates. It was a splendid fight Kansas City put up, and much credit is accorded her member of the committee—Frank P. Walsh—for the part he played.

Bullied in their efforts to secure the big convention, Jefferson City and St. Joseph fell upon each other and struggled for the delegate convention. Although disgraced in the first bout, J. H. Edwards, Jefferson City's member of the committee, summoned his forces and stood St. Joseph under a vote of 31 to 4. Twice defeated, St. Joseph withdrew from the third contest, and St. Joseph was left with a pretty speech by O. M. Barnett of that city.

Basis of Representation.
The basis of representation to the State

nominating convention was fixed at one delegate for each 100 votes cast for Bryan in 1896, and fraction of 100 over. This will make nearly 1,000 delegates, and representation was established for the other two conventions, to-wit: One delegate for each 500 votes cast for Bryan and fraction of 500 over. Accordingly, there will be 75 delegates to elect to each of these conventions.

Chairman Sam B. Cook tendered his resignation to the committee at its first meeting and at once returned. Two minutes later the committee unanimously voted to refuse to accept the resignation. Upon returning, Mr. Cook said since it was the unanimous desire of the committee that he should serve until his successor is elected, he would comply with this wish. The vacancy in the Eighth District was filled by the election of Frank Russell of Polk County. This was much of a surprise to the friends of J. W. Armstrong of the same county, who has regarded his election with much certainty until a few minutes before the committee meeting.

The old politicians said they could not remember a former meeting of the committee that was so much interested as the one which adjourned about 10 o'clock to-night. Fully 500 Democrats came from various parts of the State. The leading hotels were thronged, and the atmosphere of talk reminded one very much of a Democratic State convention.

Chairman Cook's resignation was declined.

Candidates Present.

The list of candidates observed about the hotel during the day included the following:

For Governor—A. M. Dockery and David A. Ball.

For Lieutenant Governor—John A. Lee of St. Louis and John A. Lee of St. Louis.

For Secretary of State—Sam B. Cook and John A. Knott.

For Attorney General—A. H. Holt of Franklin and R. P. Williams of Hannibal.

For Attorney General—E. C. Crow of Jasper.

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PRICE AMERICA PAYS FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, March 6.—Coincident with the completion of the commission, comes a report to Congress from the War Department giving a statement covering the military operations in the Philippines for the period from May 1, 1898, to November 1, 1899.

This statement shows that there has been a total expenditure in the islands by the army alone of \$18,928,060.34. Of this sum \$25,715,901.61 was expended by the Quartermaster's Department; the Subsistence Department spent \$8,950,000; the Pay Department \$10,822,131.90; the Ordnance Department \$1,560,239.42; the Secretary of War spent \$9,797.93.

This is in addition to the \$20,000,000 paid to Spain for the islands.

PRESIDENT SAYS HE HAS NOT CHANGED HIS MIND.

Still Believes Puerto Rico Should Have Free Trade—Yielded to House Leaders—Does Not, However, Believe the Constitution Extends to New Islands, and Anxiously Awaits Supreme Court Decision.

Washington, March 6.—The Post tomorrow will say:

"President McKinley, in conversation with others at the White House yesterday, reiterated his belief that the people of Puerto Rico were entitled to free trade with the United States. He made it clear that his view had undergone no change since he wrote his message to Congress. He still adhered to the sentiment therein expressed.

"At the same time he said he was unable to subscribe to the theory that the Constitution followed the flag—that the Puerto Ricans must have free trade as a necessary legal right.

"When he found that the House deemed it the part of wisdom, the President explained, to impose a small tariff, upon condition that the revenues so collected be returned to the island, he had been constrained to yield to the judgment of the House. The tariff, under such conditions, could be no hardship to the Puerto Ricans.

"Moreover, he believed it advisable at the earliest moment to secure a decision of the Supreme Court on the constitutional question involved. Therefore, he had given his consent to the nominal tariff and agreed to sign such a bill.

"The President also expressed his belief that the people of Puerto Rico were entitled to free trade with the United States. He made it clear that his view had undergone no change since he wrote his message to Congress. He still adhered to the sentiment therein expressed.

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It meant competition by inferior labor with American labor; the manufacture of goods in the Philippines with cheap labor and their shipment to this country in competition with goods manufactured here; the loss of the tariff revenue which had been the basis of this country's tariff system; the loss of the tariff revenue which had been the basis of this country's tariff system; the loss of the tariff revenue which had been the basis of this country's tariff system.

"I could not make any statement as to that," he replied. "That matter will have to be decided by the Supreme Court."

Mr. Whitaker would not make any statement as to the situation in Puerto Rico. He said he had nothing to say on the subject.

The present officers of the union are Sherman Patterson, president; Mack Misk, secretary, and Joseph Murray, treasurer. They are all employees of the Broadway line. The union is a very strong one in the city and has more than 2,000 members out of about 2,500 men employed on the line.

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STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES PREPARE A ULTIMATUM.

Demand That the Transit Company Reinstate Discharged Union Men and Recognize the Union.

Committee to Wait Upon Manager Coleman To-Day—Reply Will Determine Whether There Will Be a Strike—Engaging Out-of-Town Motormen and Conductors.

Street Railway Employees of America—The street railway employees of America are preparing to make a strike if their demands are not met. They are demanding that the Transit Company reinstate the discharged union men and recognize the union.

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